VOL. 3. DECEMBER, 1899. NO. 2.

LITTLE FOLKS

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OUR LITTLE ONES AND THE NURSERY

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LITTLE FOLKS ART PRINTS RAPHAEL

SISTINE MADONNA (DETAIL)

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'TWAS CHRISTMAS EVE.

The First Prize "A," Class "Beautiful," in the Prize Photograph Competition, was awarded, for this picture, to Joseph W. Anderson, M. D., Washington, D. C.

LITTLE FOLKS

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'TWAS CHRISTMAS EVE.

LAST night my baby brother in his bed—
And last night was the holy Christmas Eve—
All sudden opened wide his eyes, and in
Them came a shining smile; and we believe

He may have seen the Christmas angels then—
It was the holy Christmas Eve, you know;
'Twas Mama saw the shining, shining smile,
And Mama thinks it truly may be so.

The shining smile staid in his dark-blue eyes,
A listening look was on his little face,
As if the angels of the Bethlehem skies
Were joyous, joyous, singing in the place.

My Mama says 'twould not be very strange
If, so to keep the holy Christ-child's birth,
Those Christmas angels sing on Christmas Eves
The olden Bethlehem song of "Peace on Earth!"

O, don't you know always at Christmas-time
Our hearts with warm and loving feelings fill—
I think those Christ-child angels really come
And sing through all the world, "Good-will! Good-will!"

E. F. P.

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ONCE there were Three Little Small Bears who lived by themselves in a cave in the woods; not the Three Bears that all children know, but three little brother-bears.

These Three Young Bears were quite happy and comfortable in their warm snug cave, but still there was one thing they lacked: Christmas was coming and they had no stockings to hang up.

They had heard that Santa Claus never stopped at places except where there were stockings hanging up. And as the sweetest sweetmeats were made only at Christmas, and to be had only from Santa Claus, and as Bears are fonder of sweet things than any other creature in the world, it is not strange that these three little fellows determined to get each of them a stocking to hang in the cave.

Every day they had hoped to find some, but at last the day before Christmas had come and still they had none. So that day they started out, all three together, determined to hunt until they found some though it should be long and far.

After leaving their own home-woods, the first person they met was Mrs. Bossy-Cow. She was eating a breakfast of dried grass and leaves in a sunny open place near some trees.

"Good-morning, Mrs. Bossy-Cow!" said the Eldest Little Bear.

Mrs. Bossy-Cow looked around at them, still chewing. "Deary-me!" said she, "if it isn't the Three Little Small Bears that live by themselves in the cave! How are you, my dears? And what are you doing so far from home?"

"We are out after stockings," said the Eldest Little Bear.

"Oh, I wouldn't eat stockings if I were you," said Mrs. Bossy-Cow. "I tried it once, when I was quite young. I ate one off a rope that it was growing on—stockings always grow on ropes, you know. It made me ill."

"We don't want them to eat!" cried the Little Bears, all together; and the Eldest explained that they wanted them to hang up for Santa Claus.

"Well, I don't know where you can find them, but I would advise you to tell Santa Claus not to eat them either." And Mrs. Bossy-Cow went on with her breakfast, and the Three Little Bears hurried along.

They looked for the vines of rope on which stockings grow, but did not find any. On and on they went, until at last they saw Mr. William Goat standing on a high rock.

"Please, sir," said the Eldest Bear, "can you tell us where the stocking-vine grows?"

"Stocking-vines, indeed!" said Mr. Goat glaring down at them. "Who chased my youngest kid a week ago Monday?"

"I—did," said the Second Little Bear, bravely, "but I won't do it again."

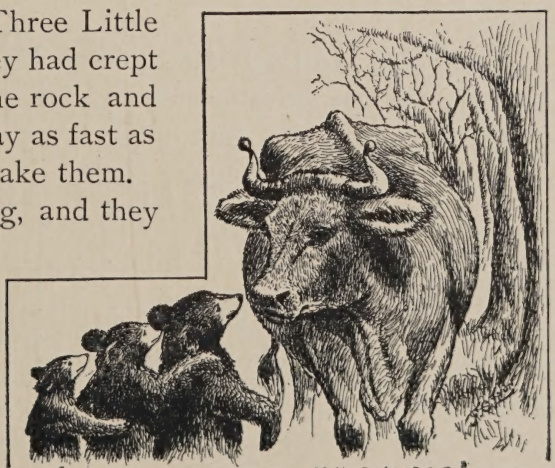
"You may be sure you won't," said Mr. Goat. "And who put burrs under the bush where my eldest son takes his nap?"

"*I* did," said the Eldest Bear. "He makes faces at me and calls me names."

"And who ate the apples under my wild sweet apple-tree?"

The Littlest Bear put his paws over his eyes, but did not say anything. He was very fond of those little red-and-white apples.

"Stocking-vines indeed!" went on Mr. Goat, but the Three Little Bears were gone. They had crept around the corner of the rock and now were hurrying away as fast as their short legs would take them.



"WE'RE OUT AFTER STOCKINGS"

And they went along, and they went along, until they came to the pond where Mr. Frog lived.

"Perhaps the stocking-vine grows under water," said one of them. "We best ask."

So they shouted, "Mis-tah Frog! Mis-tah Frog!"

Two bubbles came up to the top of the water, and then Mr. Frog's green nose and goggle eyes were seen among the dead weeds near the shore.

"We called to inquire where we can find stockings to hang up for Santa Claus," said the Second Little Bear.

"We thought perhaps you could tell us if there are any stocking-vines growing near here," added the Eldest Little Bear.

Mr. Frog climbed out on a stone and sat down, before he spoke.

"Well, my young friends," he said, "you did wisely to come to me. You inquire for stocking-vines. Stockings do not grow on vines—they grow on boys. When a boy comes into the pond here he peels off the stockings and leaves them on the bank, while he wades. But it would not be safe to take them, for a boy is not a safe animal—he strikes when angry, and he throws stones all the time."

"But if boys are so dangerous, and stockings grow on boys, how can we get them to hang up for Santa Claus?" cried out the Little Bears.

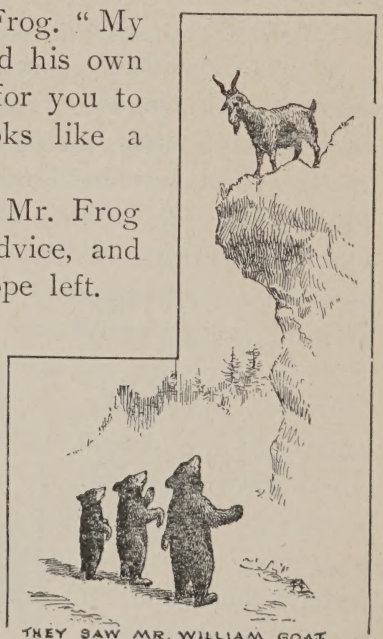
"Tha I do not know," said Mr. Frog. "My advice is to let Santa Claus find his own stockings if he wants them, and for you to keep away from anything that looks like a boy."

The Three Little Bears thanked Mr. Frog politely for his information and advice, and walked on with not very much hope left.

Chippie Squirrel spied them from a tree, and called after them: "Hello, all three! Where you going?"

"Oh, it's Chippie!" said the Second Bear. "We're looking for stockings and can't find any."

"And to-morrow's Christmas!" wailed the Smallest Bear.



THEY SAW MR. WILLIAM GOAT

"HELLO, ALL THREE!"

The Eldest Bear explained. "Mrs. Bossy-Cow said stockings grew on rope-vines, while Mr. Frog says they grow on boys. Which one is wrong? Do you know?"

"Neither," said Chippie briskly. "There are two kinds. I've seen both."

"Where?" cried the Little Bears.

"Well," said Chippie, "I found the first kind a long way out of the woods. It was on a Monday—the vine blossoms on a Monday mostly. There were some on the ground—windfalls—and I thought I might as well bring them home to hold my winter nuts."

"Oh, Chippie, lend them to us!" begged the Bears. "Just for one night! We'll bring them back safe!"

"What will you pay for the loan?" asked Chippie.

"Anything you want," said the Littlest.

"Whatever you like best of what we get in them," said the Second Bear.

"Half of what we get in each," said the Eldest.

"That's fair," said Chippie. "But I can't let you have them. I *thought* I'd bring them home, as I told you, but a boy came along, and I thought again, and thought I wouldn't!" And a moment later Chippie was laughing from the top of another tree.

The Little Small Bears were too angry for anything, and hurried away. Christmas was to-morrow—and Monday, when the stocking-vine blossomed, was three days off. The Littlest Bear wanted to give up and go home, and the Second Bear said he didn't believe Santa Claus would put anything in a Bear's stocking anyway. But the Eldest Bear wanted go on a bit further, to see what was around the turn of the path.

They went on without much hoping to find anything, and reached the turn of the path.

There before them was a grey house with a porch across the front, and on the porch sat a Very-Very Old Woman, knitting and rocking in a big chair. She looked up, and smiled at them, and asked in a cracked little voice, "How many pairs do you want?"

The Three Little Bears could hardly believe their ears.

"Just one stocking apiece!" shouted the Youngest Bear. "Hooray!"

The Eldest Bear trod on his paw, and then explained.

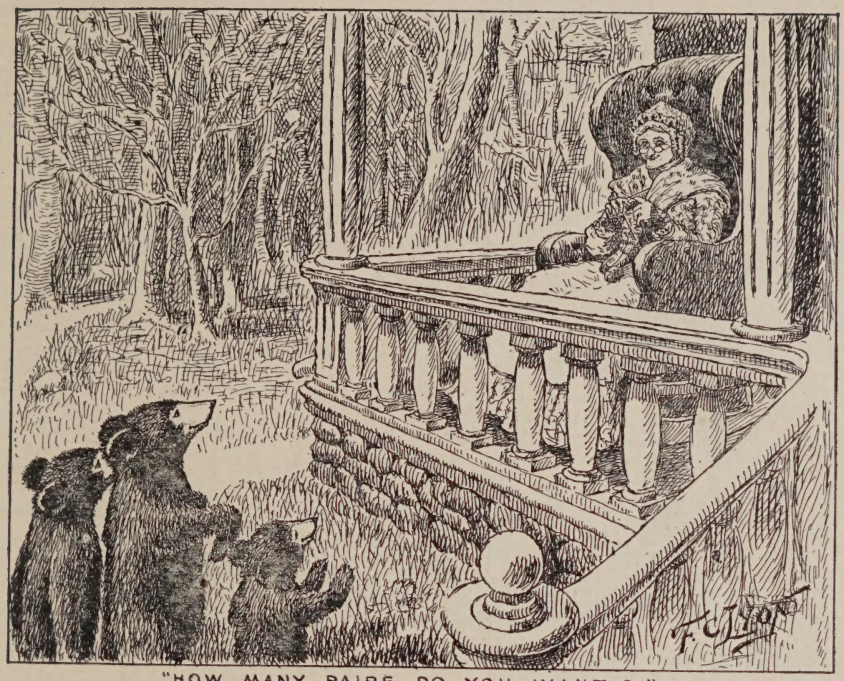
"Well," said the Very-Very Old Woman, "I think you can have them. So many come here for stockings that we are not able to keep any on hand; but I and my daughter and my daughter's daughter have each of us half of a stocking knitted, and we could get them done by sundown. You can have them and pay in honey. You will find jars on the kitchen shelf. One jar of honey for each stocking, and they must be here before the sun is down, or you can't have the stockings until to-morrow—and to-morrow would be too late."

"We lock up at sundown!" piped a thin voice, and the Little Bears saw an Old Woman and a Very Old Woman coming out of the house, bringing their big chairs with them.

THE LITTLEST BEAR WANTED TO GO HOME

There was no time to lose. The Little Bears hastened to the kitchen and each took a brown jar from the shelf. When they came out the Three Old Women were sitting in a row, rocking and knitting hard, and they started away on a run.

Now the Three Little Small Bears were still very young, else they would have known where to look for honey. The Littlest Bear thought that maybe it grew under ground, but the others didn't listen to him. The Eldest Bear thought that someone had said it grew on trees, and the Second Bear said that a Bee had once told him it came from flowers.



"HOW MANY PAIRS DO YOU WANT ?"

As there was not a flower living at that time, he pulled a Bee by one leg out of the knot of a dead tree and was going to question it, but the Bee was so very hot that he dropped it and hopped about on three legs with one paw in his mouth.

The Eldest Bear was climbing the tree while this was going on, and in a moment called down from the top of the tree-trunk:

"Here it is! It's *in* the tree! Come up, one of you, and help!"

The Second Bear took his paw out of his mouth and scrambled up to his brother; sure enough, there was the honey in the hollow trunk of the tree—but out of reach.

The Second Bear started down into the tree headfirst, while the Eldest Bear held him by one foot, but even then he could not reach far enough. At last the Littlest Bear was let down with the Second Bear holding *his* foot and the Eldest Bear holding *his* foot. And in this way they reached the honey.

It was hard work, fighting off the bees and getting the honey out, but they did it, and with their brown jars full, and their stings plastered over with mud, they started for the grey house.

It was now late in the afternoon; the sun was sinking fast and the Three Little Small Bears began to fear they would be too late. Two or three times they thought the sun was gone when it was only behind the trees, and once they lost their way. At last they came to the turn of the path, and at the same time saw there was only just one little gleam of sunlight left.

HE DROPPED IT QUICKLY.

"Wait a minute! wait a minute!" they shouted, raced around the turn, and set their jars on the porch just as the last fleck of sunlight left the tree-tops.

The heads of the Three Old Women were thrust through the crack of the door as they came up, but as the light went the door was shut and locked on the inside. And the Littlest Bear just sat down and cried.

The two others would have cried too if they had not seen the window near the door open a little way and a thin, wrinkled hand holding out the three stockings.

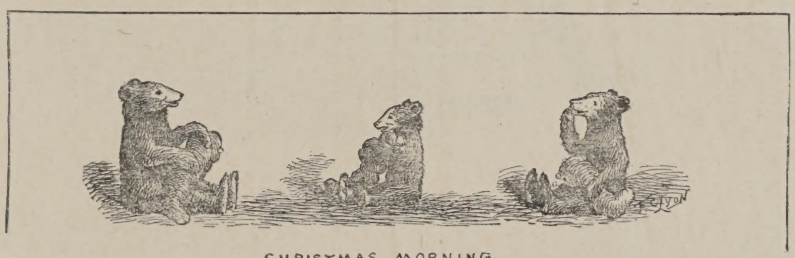
As the Eldest Bear ran to get them, a voice from inside said, "You wasn't any too soon, but you wasn't really too late, so here they are. I and my daughter and my daughter's daughter will take in the honey in the morning. You will find some bread and molasses on the end of the porch." Then the window was closed and fastened.

THE LITTLEST BEAR SAT DOWN AND CRIED.

The Three Little Bears waved their stockings around their heads and danced for joy. Then they looked for the bread and molasses. Yes, there were three brown jars, like the ones they had filled with honey, at the end of the porch, and each was full to the brim with bread and molasses. Three more thankful little bears could not have been found anywhere.

And when they started on their journey back, a Bird went out of its way to show them a short cut home, and before it was very late they were all three asleep in their own little cave, with their Christmas stockings hung at the opening, in a row.

Now this story was to be only about how the Little Bears *found* the stockings; but probably you will want to know if Santa Claus brought them anything. So I will add that when they woke in the morning the stockings were so full that they were stretched as wide as they could be. And in them was almost everything sweet that Little Bears could want.



CHRISTMAS MORNING.

And the Three Happy Little Bears gave packages of sweetmeats to all their friends—but they said that naughty Chippie Squirrel shouldn't have a single thing!

Then the Littlest Bear felt sorry for Chippie, and carried him five large sugared nut-meats when his brothers were not looking; and as each of the other two did the same thing later, Chippie had a good deal after all, though he certainly did not deserve it.

Daisy D. Plympton.

HE LIKED THAT WAY.

HE didn't want long hair like girls,
And so the barber cut off his curls.
"Now, Mr. Barber," he gravely said,
"Please, I want you to cut it so,
(For I shall like it the best I know,)
With a shiny place on the top of my head."

J. L. B.

THE BOX IS HIDDEN FROM MOTHER'S EYES.

MOTHER'S PRESENT-BOX.

A LITTLE girl with a little box
Sits quietly here in her rocking-chair;
The box is hidden from mother's eyes
For the little girl has a secret there.

A secret from mother? Well, never before
Has this happened, but this one can do no harm;
The little girl smiles and talks to herself,
The box for her has a tender charm.

Now listen to what the little girl says
As she talks to herself and gently rocks:
"I am so glad it's most Christmas-time,
And this is dear mother's own present-box!

"I never gave her presents before,
For I was little and didn't know how,
But this year I'm bigger and understand,
And I've made her some very nice presents now."

A needlebook fashioned with patient care,
A button-bag of pink twine crocheted,
Some book-marks with mottoes for mother's books—
These are the presents the little girl made.

"This is dear mother's own present-box!"
Touching the presents with reverent care,
Again and again she repeats those words,
Dear little girl in the rocking chair.

Jessie L. Britton.

HOW ANNAH'S CHRISTMAS-TREE CAME.

IT was a wild storm, the wind blowing hard and the snow coming down fast, but little Annah was sleeping, just as sound asleep as though her pretty white bed were not rocking and trembling, and the whole house shaking.

Suddenly there came a loud crash, and the large double window close to Annah's bed was broken to bits, and a big branch of a tree came through, and a lot of snow blew into the room, upon the bed and even upon little Annah's face. The snow was ice-cold of course, and you can well believe that it waked Annah up thoroughly.

"Mama! papa!" she screamed, struggling up and getting a fresh shower of snow all over her, "come! come!"

Her father and mother ran quickly in, and saw what had happened, and brushed the snow off of poor little Annah, and carried her to another room and put her into a warm bed.

They found that it was the big Austrian Pine, the tallest tree in the yard, which had blown down; and that not only had it broken little Annah's window, but that it had crashed right

"MAMA! PAPA! COME!" SCREAMED LITTLE ANNAH, SITTING UP IN BED.

through a much larger window at the very top of the house.

The windows were stopped up with rugs and blankets for the night, and the next morning Annah and her little brother ran out on the snowy piazza to look at the tall green tree leaning against the house, with its head lying in the big glass window of the studio at the top of the house. All the green branches were covered with snow and glistened in the bright sun.

"Oh, doesn't it look pretty! Can't we have it for a Christmas-tree, papa," cried Annah.

"Well, to be sure, I don't know any reason why we can't," said Annah's father.

In a few days the big Pine was sawed into great pieces and carried away; but the beautiful green top was saved for the children, and it made a very tall and splendid Christmas-tree.

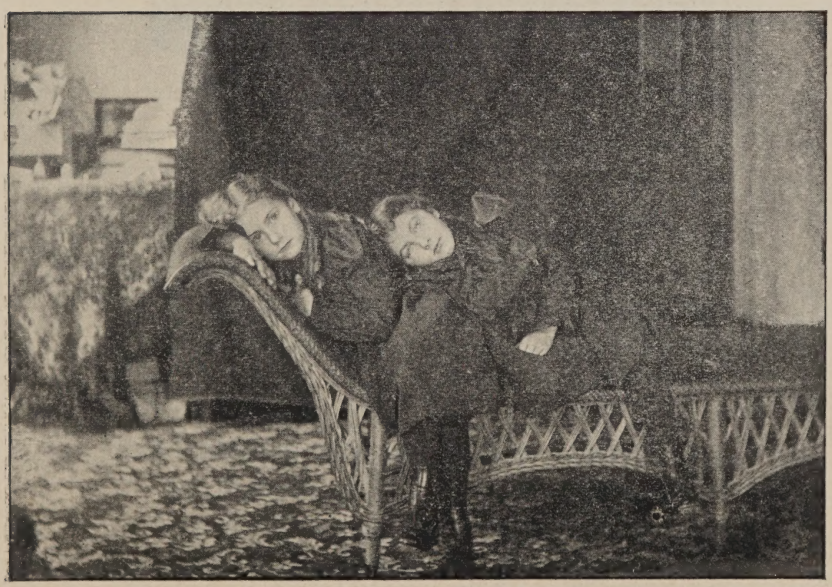
It stood up in the middle of the parlor covered with lighted

candles, and bags of candy, and all the other things that grow on Christmas-trees, and there were hundreds of glass icicles and some imitation snow, and it glittered and looked almost as pretty as it did that first morning in the sunshine after the great snow-storm. "I don't think we ever had a nicer Christmas-tree," said little Annah.

"You certainly never had one that cost so much," said her papa. "I don't believe many little children have had a Christmas-tree that cost their father fifty dollars to fetch into the house; and I think after this Tree I shall be too poor to buy any more Christmas-trees of any kind."

The children looked very sober, but little Annah caught a sly twinkle in her father's eye, and she did not feel so very much afraid they would have to go without Christmas-trees. But she didn't think she wanted any more to come smashing and banging into the house in the middle of the night!

Elizabeth Robinson.



WATCHING FOR SANTA CLAUS.

UP.

BANISTER HILL.

UP Banister Hill did you ever go?
Sometimes I go fast, sometimes I go slow,
Bnt whether I like it or not, each night
I have surely to go, at candle-light,
Up Banister Hill.

At the top stands Nurse with impatient face,
She always waits in the very same place,
And never a chance she gives me to look
At the long, long way my little feet took
Up Banister Hill.

DOWN.

Oh, how can a little boy like to go
Up Banister Hill? But it's fine, I know,
When morning comes, and I'm washed and dressed,
To play I'm on horseback and riding my best
Down Banister hill!

I stand by the side of my shining horse,
Take one look ahead at the long straight course—
And then up I jump! I slip and I slide
And off like a flash of lightning I glide
Down Banister Hill!

Lilla Thomas Elder.

THE YELLOW-CAPPED MONKEY.

Chapter II.—What Bee Brown Wanted Most.

"COME on and see the drums! Of course you can't have a hurdy-gurdy and a monkey," said Billy Boy, impatient.

The monkey with the yellow cap suddenly threw himself into a swing of jump-ropes that hung above a long table covered with toys. As he swung he seized a little tin trumpet from the table and blew it, puffing out his hairy cheeks until his head looked like a very queer toy balloon.

Then he suddenly leaped from the jump-rope swing to the back of a toy elephant. The elephant was on wheels and it started off when the monkey alighted on its back. As it went on down the long table it started other smaller toys, also on wheels—woolly lambs and striped tigers, Shetland ponies hitched to jaunty wagons, a whole company of mounted soldiers, many tin roosters and a donkey the very image of Carrots.

Many of the toys were so made that when they began to move they began to make noises, too; and such a baa-ing and growling and neighing and braying was never heard before! And above all the din sounded the cockadoodle-doo of a great red and green tin rooster, as large as the elephant. The monkey blew his trumpet as he rode along and caught an American flag from a wooden soldier and waved it. And it was a very funny procession, until it began to wobble around a little and to get mixed up with toys that could not go.

The soldiers rolled off the table, the lamb ran over the tiger, the tin rooster was jammed under the wooden donkey, and the elephant, with the monkey riding him, ran into a beautiful china milkmaid and broke off the basket of eggs that she held upon her head.

Even Billy Boy had forgotten all about the drum that he was going to buy, and he cheered the monkey while Bee hopped up and down with delight at the fun.

But the monkey's master didn't think it was fun, especially when he saw the broken milkmaid he would have to pay for.

"HOW MUCH FOR THE MONKEY WITH THE YELLOW CAP?" ASKED BEE.

He seized the poor monkey and beat and cuffed him without mercy.

"Oh, don't, don't!" cried Bee. "Oh, how can you, when he is so lovely!" She stroked the monkey, that had tears in his eyes and was uttering babyish cries. "Oh, Billy Boy, if we only had him at home he would keep us from being lonesome!"

"I rather think he would," said Billy Boy. "But then we never are lonesome, you know."

For there were a good many of the Browns, big and little, and in the Brown house, or in the Brown barn, or on the Brown lawn, there was always something going on.

"Besides we're going to have Polly for a visit, by-and-by, and I don't think that she and the monkey would get along together very well," added Billy Boy. Polly was a parrot, a very talented bird, that Billy Boy once owned for a little while and that he sometimes borrowed to make things lively.

"And you couldn't have him anyway. How could you get him?" When Billy Boy said that, Bee's fingers tightened their clasp around the plump little purse in her pocket. The money which had been in her pink-and-green codfish bank was her very own. She had meant to buy a doll for the fair and dolls were very well in their places, of course; but what, oh what was a thing made of wood and wax, even although it could open and shut its eyes and say, "Mama," compared to this fascinating little living creature that had tears in its eyes and looked as if it could love you!

"You lika buy?" asked the monkey's Italian master eagerly.

The two Italians had brought their hurdy-gurdies back to the toy manufactory, where they had bought them, hoping that they could return them and get the money back that they had paid for them, because they wished to go home to Italy.

One man was allowed to return his hurdy-gurdy, but the other's was said to be too much worn to be taken back.

"I sell cheap-y-cheap-y," said the man, pointing to his hurdy gurdy and gazing at the plump little purse which Bee had, by this time, taken from her pocket.

"Buy monk! Buy monk!" cried both the men. The man

with the red-capped monkey stood on one side of Bee, and the man with the hurdy-gurdy and the yellow-capped monkey on the other side; and they both looked around to see whether there were any older persons with the children.

Billy Boy drew himself up as tall as he could and tried to look as if he understood business.

"I am Captain Billy Boy Brown of the Pekoe Guards. I came to buy a drum for the Company. My sister is going to buy a doll for the fair. We haven't any money to spend for hurdy-gurdies or monkeys," he said firmly—"although we like them," he added, lest the feelings of the men should be hurt.

"O, we like them very much," said Bee, with a great sigh.

The yellow-capped monkey was pretending to shoulder arms and present arms, and marching about just as if he were a soldier. It really seemed as if he understood that Billy Boy was the captain of the Pekoe Guards.

"He would be *great* for one of our barn shows!" said Billy Boy longingly. "But I haven't any money of my own."

"I never *promised* to buy a doll for the fair. I should have time to make pretty paper things that would sell for just about as much," said Bee slowly. "And it's my very own money!"

"Ask him how much!" said Billy Boy promptly. "I'm here to see that you don't get cheated," he added in a whisper.

"How much for the monkey with the yellow cap?" asked Bee, opening her plump little purse. She was so eager that her voice trembled, and she could feel her heart going pit-a-pat.

(*To be continued.*)

Sophie Swett.

THE CHRISTMAS TOYS.

WE told the children they must take
Care of their toys—good children do!
"Did Jesus keep the Wise Men's Gifts,"
Said one small child, "as good as new?"

M. J. H.

LEMON PIGS.

(Two Little Southern Girls and their Garden-Plays.)

WHEN we went visiting our cousins down in far south Alabama, and in Florida, our favorite play-ground was always under the thorny lemon-trees. We had no lemon-trees in the garden at home, except in boxes.

Down in Florida the leaves of the lemon-trees are so sweet! Even the mocking-birds rustling them in flight, and in fluttering through them, will fill the air with delicious odors. It is lovely to play under those sweet shady trees!

We read story-books and played dolls in the sweet shade, but the play we loved best was to each of us have a drove of pigs to take care of and drive to pasture.

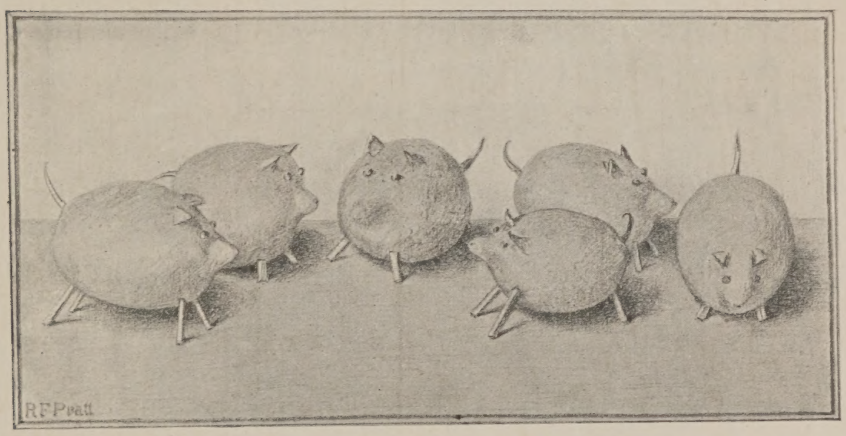
Any way-down-south child knows that every round fat lemon has already a "snout" of its own. With the snouts ready-made, it was easy to make for yourself a drove of nice fat pigs. We would just cut up out of the rind two yellow ears that would stand up of themselves—a little three-cornered cut would do it, and then we could lift them and bend them into shape.

Then we would stick in two red-headed, or brown-headed, matches, up to the head, for two eyes. By the way you cocked those ears and the distance apart you set those eyes you could give different expressions to the different pigs.

But you could lend the most character to your pigs by the length you made the legs, and the way you set them into the

body, and by the different curls you gave to the tails with your pen-knife. It was very funny to make the legs and the tails for our lemon pigs.

You made the legs and the tails of matches. You stuck in four matches for legs. If you made the front legs the longest, your pig was the kind that would look about and start off to explore. If the back legs were the longest, it was the kind of pig that would stay at home and root in the ground with great contentment. If it had very, very short back legs it would sit upon the ground, like a dog. And you could push the match-legs so far into the body that your pig would sit down on the ground in any position that you wished.



A DROVE OF PIGS.

You made the tail by whittling a bit of match, and you could whittle it so thin that you could bend it until it was quite a curly tail.

Oh, those fat yellow lemon pigs looked very funny in a drove, or when they were all camped out together under a tree, or when they were scattered about feeding in the grass! They were so fat and so cunning!

Away down South, children have all the lemons they want to play with. They are very pretty as they lie thick on the grass, yellow and fragrant.

Martha Young.

THE ONE TO BLAME.

(*A Little Girl's Talk with Herself.*)

UNSMOTHERED, in the close dark ground
The ant rests from its busy round;
Undrowned, within the rushing stream
The little fishes glance and gleam;
And birds a-tilt on topmost bough,
Fearless of fall, swing to and fro.

Each thing I see seems planned to fit
The very place that's given to it!
Well now, when things seem all awry,
Instead of whimpering that "I
Am put where I ought not to be,"
I'll say, "I know the fault's in me!"

Henrietta R. Eliot.

HER FIRST CHRISTMAS STOCKING.

LITTLE Margaret hung up her stocking
By the fire, on Christmas Eve;
They had told her of dear old Santa,
But she *couldn't* quite believe

That he'd come and fill her stocking,
That he "really and truly" would,
That he *always* came on Christmas
To the children who were good.

But early on Christmas morning
When it first began to be light,
Her mother said, "Run, little daughter,
And see if he came in the night!"

EARLY ON CHRISTMAS MORNING.

So away to the chimney-corner
She darted, as she was bid,
And she cried, in glad amazement,
"Oh, he did, he did, he did!"

L. E. Lummis.

THE STRANGE ADVENTURE OF MAZIE.

(*A Fairy Tale.*)

PART II. IN THE DOLL-HOUSE.

THE MOTHER PICKED HER UP IN HER HAND.

MAZIE ran across the table and called out again. Just then the Mother looked up. When she saw Mazie she stared at her in astonishment.

Then Mazie told her all—how she had been naughty and disobeyed her, and how she had waked up to find herself as little as a coffee-spoon. And she told how kind the animals had been in helping her to reach home.

The Mother was very glad to get her back, and forgave her; but she was very sorry about her being so small.

"Where shall I keep you, my child?" she said. "You would be lost in your bed, and if you were left on the floor someone might step on you, and if you stay here on the table you might fall off and be killed. What shall I do with you?"

Mazie thought and thought. "Oh, Mother!" she cried suddenly. "I have a fine idea of where to stay to be perfectly safe."

"Where?" said the Mother.

"Where do you think?" asked Mazie.

"I can't imagine," replied the Mother.

"Well," said Mazie, "put me in my doll-house. There are little beds and chairs and tables and everything fine. Oh, it

will be lovely!" and she clapped her hands in glee. "Please take me there at once!"

So the Mother picked her up in her hand, and put her into the parlor of the doll-house. Everything was in perfect order. Mazie skipped around in delight and ran into each one of the four rooms. There was a parlor, a dining-room, a kitchen, and a bed-room. When she reached the bed-room and saw the dear little bed with its pink curtains and pink spread, she thought she would like to get in and take a nap.

There was a china Doll in the bed, but she pulled it out. "I want to sleep there," she said. And she put on the Doll's night-gown and tucked herself in as snug as could be. It did not trouble her at all that the china Doll was lying on its face, naked and chilly, on the floor. In five minutes she was fast asleep.

The next morning when she awoke she couldn't help laughing to herself—it all seemed so funny. She got up and went to a bureau drawer where, she remembered, were a lot of dresses for the Smallest Doll. She dressed herself up in the best and put on a little hat to match.

The Mother came to the doll-house and told her she had put her breakfast on the little dining-room table. Sure enough, there she found it in the doll-dishes. There were two peas—big as potatoes to her—and a lima-bean, which she had to cut in pieces to eat.

When she had finished her breakfast, she tied on a little apron and brushed up the room, then went to walk over the house.

Now there were a number of Dolls living in this doll-house, and Mazie went about among them. But they looked so stiff and silent, sitting or standing around, their eyes always staring straight in front of them, that she was not at all pleased. She couldn't think why she had ever been fond of Dolls. Anyway she wanted the house to herself!

So what did Mazie do but drag all the Dolls to the window and dump them out! One after the other they fell, headfirst, into her Mother's sitting-room.

When they were all out, Mazie felt like sitting down to rest;

and remembering that the parlor sofa was more comfortable than the other furniture she went to rest there.

When she reached the parlor, what should she see but a Doll sitting on that very sofa!

"I thought," she said, "that you were all dumped out!" And not noticing that though it sat perfectly quiet, it looked different from any Doll she had ever had, and that in its hand it held a little wand, she went up to it and pulled it by the leg right off the sofa.

To Mazie's astonishment it stood up on its feet and spoke to her: "Do you think that this is a polite way to treat a Fairy when she comes to your house?"

Mazie was frightened to find that instead of a Doll it was a Fairy she had dragged off the sofa by the leg. She asked her pardon, and invited her to seat herself again.

"No," said the Fairy. "You have treated me too rudely. I shall stay in your house no longer." And she vanished.

Weeks and weeks now went by. Mazie grew very lonely in the doll-house all by herself. Her mother could not come into the rooms as they were only large enough for Dolls, and she did not dare take Mazie out, for fear of accidents. Mazie became very lonely and unhappy at last. She wished often and often for the little children she used to play with before she was made so small.

"If I had not been so rude to the Fairy," she thought to herself one day, "perhaps she would have changed me back to my natural size. She had a wand."

She tried from that day to be as good as she could. She kept the rooms looking very neat and clean, and she had the poor Dolls brought back into their home, and was gentle and kind to them.

One morning, when she entered the parlor after breakfast she saw the Fairy seated upon the sofa as before.

Mazie said "Good morning," very politely.

The Fairy rose and spoke to her. "I am pleased with the neat way you have kept this house, and that you have tried to make amends to the Dolls who live here. If you promise me to

try always to be a truly good girl and never disobey again, I will change you back to your natural size."

Mazie promised with all her heart.

Then the Fairy took Mazie by the hand and led her outside the doll-house. Standing in the doorway of the doll-parlor, she gave three waves of her flashing wand, and, lo and behold! with each wave Mazie grew taller and larger, and with the last wave she was her natural size again, and the Fairy had vanished.

THE FAIRY GAVE THREE WAVES OF HER FLASHING WAND.

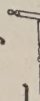
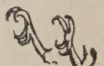
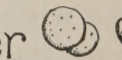
Just then the Mother came in and was delighted to see her own dear child as she used to be. She took her on her lap and Mazie told her of the Fairy's visit and of the flashing wand she had waved; and they both thought it quite probable that she was the same Fairy who had punished her in the wood and made her small.

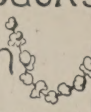
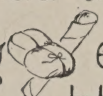
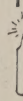
And Mazie and her Mother lived happy ever after.

A. I. Lyman.

JIMMY CROW.

II.

GRANDMA lives at Jack's . She has a bird, too. Grandma's bird is a green . The parrot's name is "Pepper." loves , but Jack's crow does not love Grandma's parrot. epper can talk like a , mew like a , bark like a . She can cry and laugh. When Jimmy says "Caw, caw!" Pepper says "C-a-w, c-a-w!" and then laughs. doesn't like to be laughed at. Once he flew at Pepper, and pushed her off her  . But Pepper scratched him with her  , and pulled out a tail-feather with her . Now Jimmy keeps away from her, unless he wants to steal her  . On Christmas Eve came

to Jack's Tree. Mama had trimmed it with  and , and hung  everywhere. When she went with a to light the candles, they were gone! "Where are the candles?" cried . "Somebody has carried them off, and I can't light the ." Betty, the littlest girl, began to cry—two ran down her cheeks. sat on her perch cracking a . When she heard the outcry, she dropped it and screamed, "Jimmy Crow, Jimmy Crow! Oh, oh! Oh, oh!" "Oh, naughty !" said Mama. "He has hidden them. Pepper is telling tales. Run, , and hunt! We'll play a new game, 'Hunt the  .'" ight pairs of ran "up stairs, down , in my lady's chamber." At last Betty tipped over a , and out rolled the . The littlest girl had won! So held her up, and she lit the Christmas tree.

Edith Francis Foster

THE GREEDY GIRL.

I'm sure I never, never knew
A girl like that—did you—did you?

A LONGER TALK THAN USUAL.

There is much to be done before Christmas by the LITTLE FOLKS' subscribers and publisher. This longer talk than usual may help to make Christmas a happier time for all of us. Many readers write that they have "several subscriptions promised for Christmas," and others say they want to give the magazine as a present, so the publisher has had a presentation card printed, which may be sent to the person who is to receive the gift.

Many have sent one and two subscriptions and received the set of fifty engravings offered as premiums. The publisher has arranged for additional sets of fifty each. You may send as many as ten or twenty new subscriptions and earn five hundred or even a thousand different subjects. These pictures are very instructive, as well as very beautiful. Several readers have framed some of their engravings, first mounting them on a dark mat, after trimming them with a very narrow white margin, and intend to use them as gifts. The Premium List given in this number contains many good things that may easily be earned for Christmas. The Engines, several kinds, are all good and will work finely. Probably there is not a subscriber in the long list of those who take LITTLE FOLKS who would not be wild with the delight of owning one of the little watches which are mentioned elsewhere in this number. A great many of them are too young to have such a fine watch, but their mothers or older sisters would enjoy one, and it is not much of a task to secure it by getting subscribers. All who have seen the important books which are given—*three of them* —for one new subscriber, consider this a very remarkable premium. Nearly all who receive them send again for others. The list embraces a hundred titles, by standard authors. The list may be found among the advertising pages.

Last month an offer was made to send LITTLE FOLKS free for ten new subscriptions until the child was ten years old. What mother would not spend time to secure ten names for LITTLE

FOLKS, and so have the magazine free until the little one outgrows it? Names may be sent as fast as obtained and will be credited.

Any subscription may be renewed for a year by sending two new subscribers.

You may want a little money to spend for Christmas, and if you do the publisher will pay you a cash commission, a very liberal one, for getting up a club. You can write and find out how much, but you may begin to make up your club at once.

About this time the parents may be asked by agents to subscribe for many magazines, like The Century, The Woman's Home Companion, The Ladies' Home Journal, McClure's and others. You can do the publisher a favor by telling the agent to send and get samples of LITTLE FOLKS. If no agent calls, and you want these or other magazines, you will find Club rates in this number.

The publisher would like to have his little friends take the magazine to school and ask teacher to get up a Club for it. If she will send ten subscriptions before Christmas or New Year's, she may have a collection of *five hundred* fine engravings for the schoolroom. Teachers are glad to know about LITTLE FOLKS, and samples will be sent if desired.

There are about one hundred and fifty copies of the first volume of LITTLE FOLKS, in numbers, on hand. Some of them have slightly soiled covers, but are clean inside. As long as these last you may have the complete Volume for one new subscriber. Don't be disappointed if they are all gone when you send, as they will not last long.

The publisher believes the best way to advertise LITTLE FOLKS is through its own subscribers. If they like it they will want their friends to have it. A pleasant word from one mother or child to another about the favorite magazine makes a deeper impression than pages of printed matter. Many mothers have sent the publisher names of people who would be likely to subscribe if they had a sample copy, and he wishes to thank them all. A good many have taken considerable time and trouble to

do this, and their efforts are fully appreciated. He would like to have lists from many others between now and Dec. 25th,

Every subscriber is advised to write to Mellin's Food Company and send the stamps for one of their beautiful Calendars. Their advertisement will give particulars. If you want good shoes for baby or the older children, Cousins, the Philadelphia Shoemaker, will be glad to hear from you. The Embroidery Hoops made by the Gibbs Mfg. Company are the best made. The publisher knows from experience that Imperial Granum should always be kept in the house. Ask the makers for a sample and their booklet. The Serge Mills will supply LITTLE FOLKS' mothers with Service Serges, at manufacturers' prices, and it will pay anyone to send for samples. The Life Size Doll, advertised by the American Art Novelty Company, will interest all the little girls. It will please the publisher if you will look over the advertisements carefully and write to any that interest you, always mentioning LITTLE FOLKS. No advertisements are inserted that are not supposed to be reliable.

It would be very helpful if all subscribers would renew promptly and send their renewals direct to the publisher. It is just as easy to send a letter with a check or money order by mail as it is to pay a bookseller or subscription agent. Every subscriber who sends his renewal by mail enables the publisher to spend more money on the magazine.

The cost of securing new subscribers to replace those who outgrow the magazine is a serious matter, and one which magazines for older people do not have to contend with. One little girl in Illinois has a good idea. She writes, "I have outgrown LITTLE FOLKS, but I have enjoyed it very much, so I send you a new subscriber to take my place."

Just as this number goes to press the publisher has secured one hundred fine watches made from steel secured from the "Maine." These watches will surely become very valuable souvenirs as there are very few of them. They are offered as a premium elsewhere in this number. One of these handsome and valuable watches would make a good Christmas present for any one.

LIFE'S PRIZE.

Who would not live a hundred years, if at that ripe old age the health was good and the mental faculties sound?

People die young in many cases because nature's laws have been disregarded. If our food and habits are correct, we should be strong and healthy at eighty instead of crippled and infirm.

What an important part the food plays in one's health!

If we eat that which the stomach rebels against, indigestion and a long train of diseases follow. When the stomach is out of order, the whole system is wrong, the brain can not be active and the mind clear. The food must be properly selected and skilfully prepared. This is essential to a sound, healthy stomach, clear mind, and active brain.

It is claimed by a physician, who has been making a series of investigations, that so much chronic stomach trouble in this country is due to the improper preparation of cereal foods. Investigation shows that in most families where oatmeal and other cereal foods are served, that they are only cooked a few minutes, and when prepared in this manner, abound in starch, which taxes the stomach, and retards the digestion of other foods. Cereals contain large amounts of starch, but this starch should be converted into dextrin to make it easy of assimilation and fit for the stomach. It requires about five hours' constant cooking to make this change.

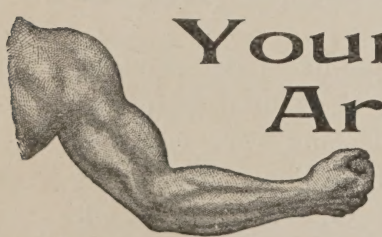
A most palatable food, called Granola, is offered to those who would use care and judgment in their diet.

This food is a combination of grains, carefully cooked, the starch being converted into dextrin, giving it a rich, nutty flavor and three times the food elements of beef.

Those who enjoy a rich, delicious meal will find that the addition of a little milk to a few teaspoonfuls of Granola will make a dainty and appetizing dish.

Granola is supplied in pound packages by leading grocers. Each package bears the picture of the famous Battle Creek, Mich., Sanitarium.

A card containing your address and the name of a grocer who does not sell Granola, sent to the Battle Greek, Mich. Sanitarium Health Food Co. will bring a free sample.



can be enlarged **1 inch** and strengthened 50 per cent. in **one month** by using the **Hercules Graduated Gymnastic Club and Strength Tester 5 minutes each day.** It will develop and strengthen the arms, chest, back and waist in less than one-half the time required by any other apparatus known. The busiest man may become strong and healthy by its use.

Write for descriptive pamphlet and price-list to

HERCULES, Box 3559 , Boston, Mass.

AVALON, CATALINA ISLAND.

Dear Littte Folks:—I am twelve years old and although I am that age I like "Little Folks" as much as if I was five or six. I am so eager to read it when it comes that my mama has a hard time to make me do things.

I have never seen any letter from Catalina yet, so I thought I would write one. I like this island very much, it has such beautiful scenery and mountains, and the ocean is very nice to go bathing in. I hardly ever go in bathing in winter for it is so cold, but I enjoy it in summer very much, for there are a great many people here then. Some time I will tell you about "Eagle Camp" in "Middle Ranch" canyon on this island. I wish some girl would tell about where she lives. *Caroline Trask.*

SAN JOSE, CAL.

Dear Little Folks:—I am a little boy nine years old and have a little brother Raymond four years old. It is hard to tell which enjoys "Little Folks" the most. Raymond's choice is "Where was the Little White Dog?" and "Roggie and Reggie." He thinks those the very finest stories ever written, and when he was sick Mama read them until she knew them all by heart. My favorites are "Billy Boy Brown" and "The Sea Captain's Children." I am so sorry that "The Sea Captain's Children" is ended. It was the best story ever written. I have never been to school but can read and write, for Mama has us taught at home. I expect to go next spring, for I want to study law and practice with my papa We have named our cat "Friskerina" after the one that belonged to the Sea Captain's children. We have two dogs—a sable Scotch collie named "Gold Fine," and an English pug named "Chappie." We also have a horse, two Jersey cows, and a canary named "Robin." I have a wheel and ride every morning. My brother and I have more fun playing soldiers! We see lots of soldiers here and in San Francisco. I live fifty miles from San Francisco and go there very often. I have several new subscribers in view, and hope to get some of those fine pictures.

Stanley Flickinger Patton.

VANCEBORO, ME.

Dear Little Folks:—I'm a little boy nine years old, and have been a reader of "Little Folks" for two years. I like the books so much that some day mama says I can have them bound. I have a pug dog, a kitten and three doves for pets. My uncle has just sent me a new Remington Rifle, I enjoy reading "The Little White Dog" very much. The town I live in is the border between Maine and Canada. I ride a bicycle and think it great fun. I have taken most two quarters on the piano.

Chester Goodman Cummings.

Mothers!

Deformity and suffering follow the improper shoeing of tender little feet. Proper shoes cost no more than others of haphazard make. They may be ordered by mail, will be sent prepaid, and perfect satisfaction is assured.

INFANTS' hand turned soles, .75, $1.00, $1.25. Sizes 2½ to 6.
CHILD'S hand turned soles, wedge heels, $1.25, $1.50. Widths A to D.
CHILD'S welt soles. Button, Pat. Leather Tips; Lace, Kid Tips, $2.00. Sizes 7 to 10½.
MISSES' Button, Pat. Leather Tips; Lace, Kid Tips, $2.50. Sizes 11 to 2.
LARGE GIRLS' welt soles, spring heels, Button, Pat. Lea. Tips; Lace, Kid Tips, $3.00. Sizes 2½ to 5. Good, plump uppers and soles, roomy toes, but stylish and durable.

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Serge Mills Co., Dept. A, Worcester, Mass.

LONG CREEK, OREGON.

Dear Little Folks:—I'm a little girl eight year old. I like to go to Sunday School. I like the "Little White Dog", "Billy Boy Brown", "Greta and Greyback", and "Toddie's Christmas Tooth" the best. I do not go to school, but my Mama teaches me at home. I'm in the Third Reader. I got you for my Christmas last year. I wish you would come every week. I got a crying doll for my Christmas this year, and it will talk and say "Mama" and "Papa". It is very cold this February day and there is snow on the ground. My doll has a large cradle. I cannot play out-doors today. I like to read you over and over. We have a skating rink here and I can skate. I have a pair of skates of my own.

Gladys Crockett.

NORWOOD, VA.

Dear Little Folks:—I am a little girl ten years of age. My Papa has been giving you to me going on two years, and I love you dearly. Mama and Papa say you are the best magazine that they can find for me. I think all of the stories are fine; but there are a few that I fancy more than the rest, and now I will tell you which they are. "The Horse-Radish Man's Horse", "The Baby's Walk", "Dorothy's Behavior Reports", and "Bobby's Pocket." Our Boarding School, in King William County, starts the 20th of this month, but I never go until October, because once before I was down there in this month and I was taken very ill. Our teacher is a splendid teacher—her name is Mary Ellen Weathers, and her school closes in May. She gives two weeks holiday at Christmas, and I come home every Christmas and then I go back where all of my other little friends are, and we have a delightful time on our sleds. My auntie is going to teach me how to skate this winter when I come to see her. I have a pair of skates and I am very easy to learn. I can dance anything you call for. I also take music lessons and get through my books very rapidly. My little sister Addis is one year old. She is just learning to walk, and is the cutest little thing I ever saw. I make chocolate candy almost every day all by myself except the cook, or the house girl helps me a little. I put the milk and sugar on until it boils and then pour the chocolate and butter in, and then try it in cold water, and if it gets hard it is done and then you take the rest of it off and then grease the dish and let it set till it gets almost hard, and then take a knife and cut it into squares, and then it is done. I have had four other magazines, but you are the best one of them. I am your devoted little reader.

Alice A. Callaway.

SHELTON, CONN.

Dear Little Folks:—I like you very much. I am a little girl eight years old, and go to school. I like all your stories. I send you the names of all the little girls I can think of. Their parents are able to subscribe for them, and I hope they will, for I want to earn one of the premiums. This is the first letter that I have written on the typewriter.

Edna Beardsley.

HARRISONVILLE, MO.

Dear Little Folks:—I am a little boy seven years old. I am in the second room. I have a brother twelve years old. My brother is in the seventh room. There is a little girl lives right next door to us, and I walk to school with her every day. The boys laugh at us, but we don't pay any attention to them, and so they quit. The little girl's name is Hazel Deane.

I think "The Little White Dog" and the "Roggie and Reggie Stories" are the best in the book. *Harold Winters Treakle.*

BOSTON, MASS.

Dear Little Folks:—I am a little girl eight years old. I go to school. We have a lovely teacher, her name is Miss Bourne. I want to tell you how I like your Little Folks, and will try to get as many little folks to take you as I can. I was very glad to see in the magazine the lovely face of the poet we were studying in school—Longfellow.

Mary Glee Willey.

NORTH LACROSSE, WIS.

Dear Little Folks:—You were given to me for a Christmas present and I like you very much. I was seven years old last July. I have a little kitten and a parrot; her name is Cricket. I like "Roggie and Reggie Stories" and "Where was the little white dog?" best. Come as soon as you can. *Norma Partridge.*

SANDY SPRINGS, MARYLAND.

Dear Little Folks:—I enjoy you very much. I was so very sorry to see that "The Sea Captain's Children" stopped. I am going to try to help you in getting some more subscribers. I don't think I can get the first prize, but still I am going to try to help you. *Little Folks* is the nicest magazine I have seen; you have such nice stories! My mother is going to write to you, so I thought I would write too. My sister Edith enjoys you quite as much as I do, she says, but I don't think she *could* like it as much as I do! Good-bye. I hope you will get lots more subscribers! *Eliza Bentley.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Little Folks:—I am a little girl four years old, and I do love to get you and make my Mama tell me the "Story of Tartar" 'till I most know it by heart. Wish you came every week—reckon Mama does too, for she says she gets tired reading the same stories over so many times. I have just had a birthday, and got the nicest kind of a present—it wasn't a doll this time but a dear little baby-brother. With lots of love to you.

Helen McKnew Sheriff.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

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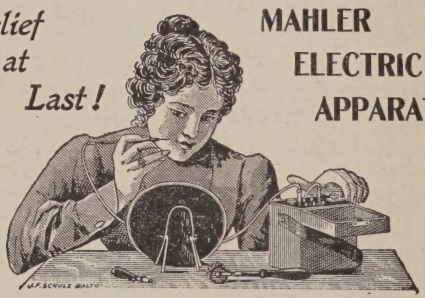

For the Removal of **SUPERFLUOUS HAIR**

This is the only apparatus ever invented which ladies can operate in the privacy of their own homes. Results Positive. **Simple—Safe—Economical.** Ladies afflicted are invited to send for descriptive circular. *Correspondence confidential.*

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are engraved by

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In its Various Attractive Bindings it Makes the

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What better, wiser, or more acceptable gift could be made than a copy of the International? It is a vast storehouse of valuable information arranged in a convenient form for hand, eye, and mind. It is more widely used than any other lexicon in the world. It should be in every household.

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Specimen pages, etc., of both books sent on application.

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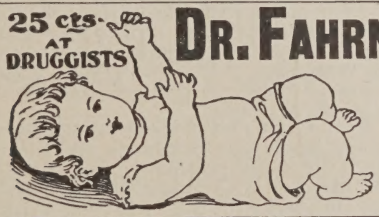
Peeping through...

Baby's first tooth! How proud mother is—and father, too! Dr. Hand's Teething Lotion makes teething troubles as **light as air.** Drives away the pain, softens the gums, coaxes the teeth through QUICKLY. **"Common Sense Advice to Parents" free** to any mother who will name this magazine with her address, to

THE HAND MED. CO.,
Canal and Poplar Sts., PHILA., PA.

25 cts. AT DRUGGISTS



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is preferred by mothers because it is perfectly harmless to the most delicate infant. Not an atom of injurious drugs in a gallon of it. It takes baby through the entire period of teething in comparative comfort. Cures colic in ten minutes; relieves indigestion; cures sour stomach, and is widely recommended for cholera infantum. **Trial bottle will be sent free if you mention this paper.** Address DRS. D. FAHRNEY & SON, HAGERSTOWN, MD.

BY DE FREGGER.

Mothers of young Children find that for Successful Treatment of Whooping-Cough or Croup so fatal to young infants.

They Must Use

DELAVAU'S REMEDY

50 Cents a Bottle. At all druggists. It never fails.

... For one new subscriber to LITTLE FOLKS, either of these new books by the Editor, will be given. Postage additional, 10c.

STICK-AND-PEA PLAYS, Pastimes for the Children's Year. By CHARLES STUART PRATT author of "Buz-Buz," "Little Peterkin Vandike," etc., and Editor of LITTLE FOLKS Seventy working designs by the author, with other illustrations, drawn by H. P. Barnes For homes, kindergartens, schools.

BUZ-BUZ, His Twelve Adventures. By CHARLES STUART PRATT, author of "Stick-and-Pea Plays," "Little Peterkin Vandike," etc., and Editor of LITTLE FOLKS. Fifty illustrations and cover design by L. J. Bridgman.

Perseverance and persistency will enable anyone, young or old, to earn many dollars by taking orders for LITTLE FOLKS. Many people are now selling merchandise, books, soap and trinkets, who could earn more and earn it easier by the pleasant occupation of showing LITTLE FOLKS. It is an honorable thing to do, and children and parents will be benefitted thereby. It will cost nothing to try it, and if you can sell anything you can succeed with LITTLE FOLKS. If you never canvassed before try it a few days among your acquaintances to start with. You would like a little extra money for Christmas. Here is a chance to secure it, and do your neighbors a favor at the same time. Try it until Christmas. LITTLE FOLKS requires hardly more than to be shown. Intelligent mothers are quick to appreciate it, and sure to want it.

For terms and samples, address:

S. E. CASSINO, Salem, Mass.

LIFE SIZE DOLL...

"Babies clothes will now fit dollie."

One of the latest novelties and sure to please the little ones. By our wonderful process we have reproduced a very large hand-painted Doll. The execution of the work is most faithfully done. The Doll is intended to be stuffed with cotton, as directions will show. The material used is a very heavy sateen that will not tear. (Practically indestructible.) Oil colors only are used, they will not crock. By means of the patent Gusset the feet protrude in front, enabling the doll to stand alone. Dollie has Golden Hair, Rosy Cheeks, Blue Eyes. Kid Color Body, Red Stockings and Black Shoes.

2½ Feet High.

FREE. To every one selling six of these Dolls we will send free of any cost one of our beautiful, hand-painted Effects, 23x23. Pillow tops, over 30 designs to select from, when made up readily sell for $5.

Every child loves a Big Doll, but what will they say to a Life Size one, **50 cts., free delivery.** Also Doll Furniture, Parlor Suits (6 pieces, 35c. Bedroom Suits (3 pieces), 35c. Sent by mail, prepaid; 1 or 2c. stamps taken, or postal note.

AMERICAN ART NOVELTY CO.,

No. 2 W. 14th St., - - - - New York.

NORTH EASTON, MASS.

Dear Little Folks:—"Charlie" boy is only five years old, as yet cannot write, for he has never been to school, but he wants a letter written for him to tell the little boys and girls about his pets.

He has two guinea pigs over a year old, their names are "Macy" and "Spicy." Not long ago they had some little babies—one was just the color of cinnamon, and the other pure white with one pink ear and a tiny brown patch on its back. Their names are Jack and Jill. "Charlie boy" loved them dearly and grieved sorely when they were given away. Now he has a buff-colored rabbit, tame as a kitten. But what do you think? a horrid old rat bit its ear the other night. He puts this bunny in his little red wheelbarrow and draws it all about. His papa has many ducks—black ones and white ones, and oh! so many doves that strut about and "coo" so gently to each other. Charlie calls them all his. He also has a large white rocking-horse. The other day he had a box of colored crayons given him. What do you suppose he did with them? Covered his pretty horse all over with great black, green and yellow lines to make a zebra of him. He has a dear little friend whose name is Rena. Sometime if the "Little Folks" wish they shall hear a true story about "Charlie boy" and "little tot Rena" as they call each other. [Yes.] Charlie has just begun to take "Little Folks" and is delighted with the magazine. Every night after his "Now I lay me," either his papa or mama read the stories over and over to him. His favorites are "The Horseradish Man's Horse," "Roggie and Reggie" and "Little White Dog." *Charles Calef Carr.*

Dear Little Folks:—Santa Claus brought you to our house last Christmas and I thought you were the nicest present we had. I am five years old but do not go to school. My mama is writing this letter for me. I have two little sisters, named Elizabeth and Florence. Our mama reads you to us every evening before we go to bed. I like "The Sea Captain's Children" the best, but Elizabeth always wants her to read about "Roggie and Reggie" first. We haven't any pets at our house. We are all afraid of dogs but love kittens. I am making my dollie a quilt for her little cradle. We have a little friend named Esther who plays with us all the time. We are going to write to Santa Claus to take you to our little cousins who live in North Dakota. *Frances A. Rose.*

SPRINGFIELD, VT

Dear Little Folks:—I like you very much have taken you over a year, and hope all take you a good while longer. I have tty named Dewey; he is the first pet I ev d. I have seven dolls. Mama has a canar bird; he is yellow and his name is "Jerry." like your stories very much, but I like "Th Voice in the Shell," and "The Sea Captain's Children," "Billy Boy Brown," and "Dorothy's Behavior Reports," a little the best. Mama likes "The Horse-Radish Man's Horse." I am nine years old, and am in the Fourth Grade.

Lula J. Britton.

JACKSON, MICH.

EL PASO, TEXAS.

Dear Little Folks:—I am in the fourth grade at school. I like to go to school. I like you very much and can hardly wait from one month to another for you to come. I wrote a letter a few months ago but I haven't seen it in print yet so I thought I would write another. I liked the story about "Dorothy's Behavior Reports" best in the Sept. magazine. Good-bye Little Folks. *Margarita Wright.*

LISBON, N. D.

Dear Little Folks:—My watch came to-day—thank you for it. I think it is a beauty, and I am the happiest little girl in Lisbon! I worked hard to get the six subscribers. Some days I was ready to give up, but now I am glad I didn't! I am just nine years old, and I love *Little Folks*, and so does my little sister Vola who is six. I have an all-black kitty, named "Sampson Dewey;" he was born on Decoration day, 1898. He is a very cute kitty.

Elva A. LaDu.

NEW HAMPTON, IA.

Dear Little Folks:—I enjoy reading the Letter Bag, so I am going to help fill it. I am nine years old. I go to school in the fifth room. I have a black cocker spaniel dog. His name is Prince. I enjoy all the stories in the *Little Folks*. I have eight dolls, doll cradle, two tables, chairs, couch, double swing, dressing-case, and all kinds of doll-furniture. My papa has a furniture store, and gets me anything I want. I have three volumes of Louisa Alcott's works. I have a new piano, and am taking music lessons. My teacher says I am doing well. *Helen M. Breeding.*

PLAINVIEW, ILL.

Dear Little Folks:—I am eight years old. I have a toy piano, a toy stove, and a dog, four kittens. I like the story about "Puppy Junior," and "The Lion Hunters," and "Where was the Little White Dog?" *Irma Otwell.*

BOYS, GIRLS & LADIES

you can earn a Solid Silver or Gold Watch, a Ring or Camera, Set of Dishes, Lamp and other useful presents in a few hours time. You need *NO MONEY*. Write for Catalogue of premiums to

MILLER TEA CO., Cleveland, O.

HOOPING-COUGH CROUP.

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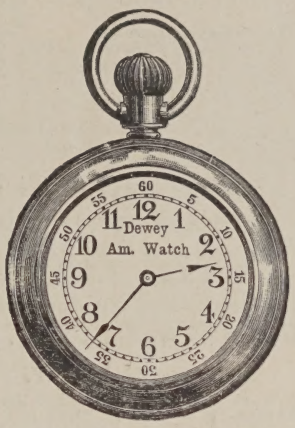
The celebrated and effectual English Cure without internal medicine, Proprietors, W. EDWARD & SON, Queen Victoria St., London, England. Wholesale of E. FOUGERA & CO., 30 NORTH WILLIAMS ST., N. Y.

Souvenir of the "Maine."

The publisher has been fortunate in securing one hundred watches made out of steel secured from the wreck of the "Maine." The manufacturers furnish certificates from naval officers testifying that the entire amount of steel re-



covered was about 1200 lbs. and that this has all been delivered to the watch makers. As but a limited number of watches can be made from this material, these souvenirs will soon command a high price. They are now sold by many people at $15.00. These watches are of the best workmanship, especially constructed, finely jewelled, American movement, open faced case, blued like gun metal, stem winding and setting.

There are two sizes, gentlemen's and ladies.' They will be given for ten new subscribers to *Little Folks*. They will be sold for $6 and each new subscription secured will count as 60c.

S. E. CASSINO, Publisher,
Salem (or Boston), Mass.

Seat Work.

The Latest and Best Series of Busy Work,

JUST PUBLISHED.

By Elizabeth Merrick Knipp, B. S.

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Language Sheets,	All	Different.
Arithmetic Sheets,	"	"
Geography Sheets,	"	"
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Size of sheet, 3½ x 5—colored, illustrated, with full directions for using each set, and adapted to all grades of school work.

Price, 25 cents per set of 50 sheets. 5 sets, $1.00.

Keep your pupils busy and they will give you no trouble.

Special Offer.

To introduce this work we will send, **to one teacher in each school only, the five complete sets postpaid, upon receipt of 50 cents in stamps.**

ONE FROM MANY.

The Busy Work Series are just what teachers want. Send me 500 sets, 100 of a kind. The series are just excellent and I shall do some splendid work for you selling them in Iowa.

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PERRIN & SMITH, Publishers.

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The Best Soap Ever Introduced
For Cleansing and Polishing
Tin, Copper, Brass,
And all Metals.

For Cleansing & Restoring PAINT
It has no equal in the market.

For removing Tar, Pitch, Cement, Varnish, Paint, Axle Grease, Blacking, and all impurities from the hands, it is unequaled, leaving the skin soft, white and smooth.

Beware of Imitations. For Sale by all Grocers.

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Factory, Wollaston, Mass.

"DUFFER A REAL LITTLE BOY."

Here I am! Don't you know me? Why I am Papa's little Duffer and his salesman, too.

Papa makes ever so nice underwear for big people and babies, but I am not large enough for that, so I make the prettiest little vests, pants and union suits you ever saw for dolls. They are just like the big ones Papa makes for the United States Senators and such great folks. The union suits are buttoned up the front and have real button holes so I can undress my dolls and put them to bed. Papa had my doll's picture taken in the union suits and if you would like to see them and will send a two-cent stamp to the Muskegon Knitting Mills, Muskegon, Michigan, papa will send you their picture and one of me dressed up just as I am when I go out to sell his goods. There are a lot of pretty pictures in his little book and if you have asked Santa Claus to bring you a big doll that can open and shut her eyes I think you ought to keep her nice and warm so she will not get the Grip or be sick with the Croup. Don't you?

I may tell you next month about my "Jumbo" and Dolls. I know you would like to hear the story papa tells me when I don't feel sleepy. The name of it is the "Bug in the Rug." Then he tells me about the "Fire Fairies." How the good ones go up in the chimney into the sky and the bad ones go into the ashes and lots and lots of nice stories he tells me when I sit on his knee before Jennie comes to take me to bed.

Papa sells some of my doll's vests and pants for 15c each and the union suits for 25c, 50c, 75c, and those for the great big dolls made in Paris that go to sleep like real babies, are ever so beautiful and only cost one dollar.

Yours, "Little Duffer."

$5.00 CAMERA, $3.15

The Broadway. Price holds good until 1900. The greatest success yet out. Send for circular and reduced price list on all photo supplies.

BROADWAY CAMERA EXCHANGE,
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DO YOU SEW, KNIT OR CROCHET?

All needle workers should use our Novelty Spool Holder Attachos to dress, holds spool and commands the thread or yarn. Heavily plated wire; makes a novel and useful present. In neat box, postpaid, 10c. each (silver), three for 20c.

NICKEL PLATING WORKS, Woonsocket, R. I.

PILLOW-DEX is a Merry Game for Children of all ages—from four to forty. If you have never played "Pillow-Dex" you can not imagine what fun it makes. It is the jolliest of all games. It is sold by leading dealers everywhere, or mailed by us on receipt of **25 cents in stamps.** Better edition, 50 cents.

The Parker Games

ARE PLAYED IN A MILLION HOMES.

They are sold by leading dealers everywhere throughout the English speaking world.

Among the merriest of New Games for a roomful of players—young or old—

Pushkins, . . . 25 and 50 cents

Young America Target, (Harmless! No darts to hurt the little folks) 25 cents

OUR ILLUSTRATED LIST MAILED FREE

describing eighty of our most popular games.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR THE PARKER GAMES.

All bear our name upon the box.

PARKER BROTHERS, Salem, Mass., U. S. A.

PREMIUM LIST OF LITTLE FOLKS.

PREMIUM CONDITIONS—READ THEM CAREFULLY.

Premiums are given as payment for the time and effort required to secure new subscribers for LITTLE FOLKS.

Premiums will not be given for sending your own name or that of a member of your own household.

Sending the magazine as a gift or paying for another's subscription will not entitle you to a premium, this requiring neither time nor effort.

To be entitled to premiums you must send the names and full subscription price ($1.00 a year) direct to the publisher; not through an agent or agency.

The premium offers cannot be used by dealers or club agents.

Subscriptions may begin with any number. But the volume begins with November. **Mark** every list " For Premiums," if so intended.

Premiums to Canada and Mexico may be sent by mail at same rate as in the United States; but the receiver also pays the duties.

Remit by P. O. order; by Express money order ; by registered letter; or by check on New York; postage stamps may be sent in registered letters for change; write plainly and fully; give subscribers' full addresses; sign your name and give your full address *in every communication.* Personal check outside of New York and Boston cannot be received.

The first step is to send for specimen copies of the magazine and subscription blanks.

Freight or express charges are paid by receiver.

Address all orders and inquiries to

S. E. CASSINO, PUBLISHER, SALEM, MASS.

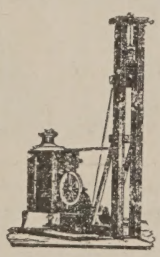
STEAM TOYS.

Any toy on this page will be sent free for two new subscribers or for one new subscriber and 25c., or if sent prepaid, 40c.

All the toys on this page are made by the Weeden Manufacturing Co., and are guaranteed. Each engine is tested and carefully packed. They are large and handsome, and are the most popular and instructive toys a boy can possess. Full instructions will be sent with each one. All parts are interchangeable and duplicates can be obtained from the manufacturers at New Bedford, Mass.

STEAM ENGINE.

HOT AIR ENGINE.

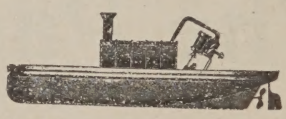


STEAM PILE DRIVER.

The Steam Engine stands 10 inches high, is made of polished brass, and has a good water glass.

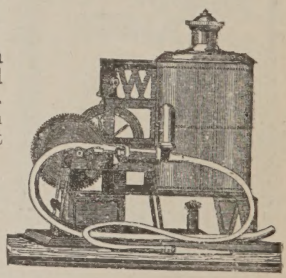
The Hot Air Engine is a new toy, and as it does not use water or steam, it will run indefinitely. Made of brass and guaranteed

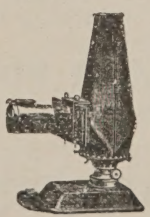
Steam Pile Driver. This very interesting toy is finished in fine colors, and is thoroughly tested before being sent out. Works like the large Pile Drivers.



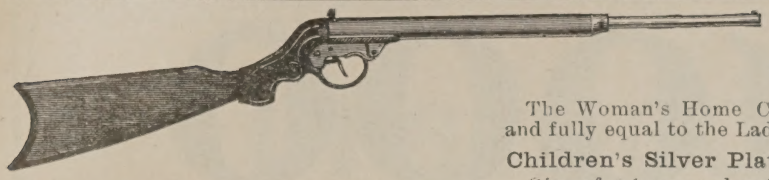
The Steamboat can be run in a bath-tub in winter. Brass boiler and three bladed propellor.

The Steam Force Pump and Engine combined. Throws a stream of water six feet at ordinary speed.



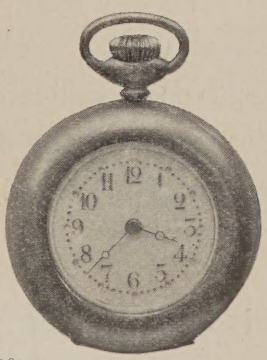


Brilliant Magic Lantern with safety lamp and screw focal adjustment. Six slides with each lantern. (12 additional slides will be sent, postpaid, for one new subscriber.) Full directions for operating the lantern will be sent in the box.



Daisy Air Rifle. Shoots darts or B. B. shot. Black walnut stock, pistol grip, nickel plated. Has a new arrangement by which darts can be used, making it perfectly safe for parlor amusement. All parts are interchangeable and can be replaced if required. Length 0 inches. The best air rifle to be had. Given for two new subscribers or for one new subscriber and 20 cents. Postage 35 cents, or sent by express.

Watches. This handsome hunting case gold plated watch is given for seven new subscribers to LITTLE FOLKS. This watch will keep good time and is suitable for a boy or girl. This cut is exact size of the watch. With good care this watch will last for years. It will be sent for 5 subscribers and one dollar.



This cut is the exact size of the beautiful ladies' gold watch which will be given for thirteen new subscribers or for six new subscribers and $2.75, or for ten new subscribers and $1. This watch is guaranteed for ten years with reasonable care. Any girl or woman may well be proud to own this little gem. Stem winding and setting. This watch is sold at retail for $10.

A free yearly subscription to one of the following periodicals will be given for two new subscribers to LITTLE FOLKS.

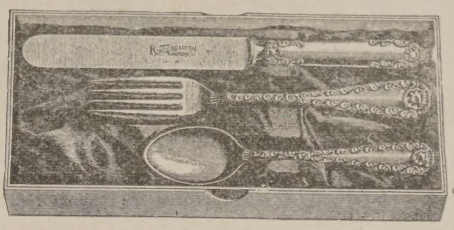
McClure's magazine.
Ladies' Home Journal.
The Munsey.
The Cosmopolitan.
Mother's Journal.
Trained Motherhood.

A free yearly subscription to the Woman's Home Companion will be given for one new subscriber to LITTLE FOLKS and 15 cents extra.

The Woman's Home Companion is similar and fully equal to the Ladies' Home Journal.

Children's Silver Plated Set.

Given for 1 new subscriber and 10 cents additional.

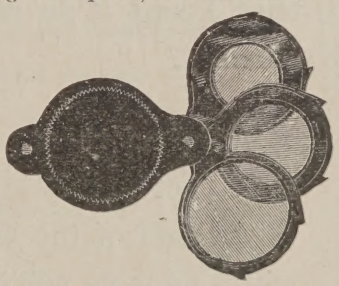


Heavily plated Knife, Fork and Spoon, in satin lined box. Price 75 cents.

Silver Thimble given for 1 new subscriber. Solid silver. Mention size desired. Price 50 cents.

Bagster Art Bible. profusely illustrated with full page half-tones from photographs of paintings by the world's greatest masters. Printed on fine paper, large, self-pronouncing type, concordance, references. Fine morocco, divinity circuit binding. Size, 5 1-2 x 8 3-8 inches. Retail price $6. Given for four new subscribers, or for two new subscribers and 80 cents. Postage or express, 30 cents extra.

Magnifying Glass. Given for one new subscriber and 15 cents additional. Hard rubber case; 3 lenses of different diameters. The power increases when the lenses are used in combination. Price, 75 cents.



Club Rates.

LITTLE FOLKS will be sent with the following magazines at the prices mentioned.

McClure's Magazine,	$1.80
The Cosmopolitan,	1.80
The Munsey,	1.85
Ladies' Home Journal,	1.75
Atlantic,	4.25
Century Magazine,	4.50
Harper's Monthly,	3.50
New England Magazine,	3.50
Scribner's Magazine,	3.50
Outing,	3.50
Lippincott's,	3.50
North American Review,	5.00
Review of Reviews,	3.60
Ladies' Home Companion,	1.50

1900

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Do you want a handsome Calendar?

A Calendar that is made for the home, and not for the office?

A Calendar that is ornamental and that will look well in any house?

A Calendar that you will enjoy every time you look at it.

A Calendar of six parts, each part different from the other, yet forming a beautiful and handsome series?

A Calendar printed in eleven colors from original designs, mounted on an extra heavy mat, 14 x 17 inches, that keeps it in shape and prevents the corners from curling?

A Calendar that costs us 36 cents each, delivered, and that would not be sold in the stores for less than one dollar?

An End of the Century Calendar of a limited edition, of which no more will be printed?

We have a Calendar of this kind; if you want one, send five two cent stamps to Mellin's Food Company, 291 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Mass.

We know you will like it; we will refund the money if you are not satisfied.

Trained Motherhood

A Monthly Journal for Young Wives and Mothers.

Yearly, $1.00. **Copy, 10 Cents.**

EDITOR:

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The well-known Writer and Author.

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Tells just the things young wives and mothers want to know and should know, things not found in any book or in any other journal.

Has a doctor's department; questions answered freely and promptly to all subscribers.

It is a young wife's journal, because it pays particular attention to expectant motherhood and the care of the new-born child.

Nursery talks each month: a record of experiences from professional nurses and observing mothers.

TEACHES YOUNG MOTHERS.

I have been very much pleased with your magazine "Trained Motherhood." I think it supplies a want that was much needed, especially for young mothers, many of whom are totally ignorant of the proper way of bringing up children. — Mrs. H. Barnes, Vancouver, B. C.

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I find your magazine "Trained Motherhood" very helpful to me and just what I need. — Mrs. Harry L. James, Washington, D. C.

BEST OF ITS KIND.

Your journal "Trained Motherhood" is the best I have ever seen of its kind. — Mrs. H. G. Eisenmenger, Warrensville, Pa.

IT WOULD BE MISSED.

I enjoy "Trained Motherhood" so much I do not want to miss a single number. I am always glad to say a good word about it to my friends. — Mrs. F. S. Goodrich, Waterbury, Conn.

USEFUL TO ALL.

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S. E. CASSINO, Publisher, Boston and Salem, Mass.

Contents of Little Folks, December, 1899.

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		PAGE.
Frontispiece. 'Twas Christmas Eve First Prize Photograph "A." Class Beautiful	*Joseph W. Anderson, M. D.*	34
'Twas Christmas Eve Illustration: Frontispiece	*E. F. P.*	35
The Three Little Small Bears Illustrations by Fred C. Lyon	*Daisy D. Plympton*	36
He Liked That Way	*J. L. B.*	43
Mother's Present Box Illustration by Agnes M. Watson	*Jessie L. Britton.*	44
How Annah's Christmas-tree Came Illustration by Alice Hirschberg	*Elizabeth Robinson*	45
Watching for Santa Claus Illustration from photograph by John J. Burke		47
Banister Hill Illustration from photographs of Master Osmon Royall.	*L. [illegible] Thomas Elder*	48
The Yellow-Capped Monkey. Chapter II. What Bee Brown Wanted Most. Illustration by Frank T. Merrill	*Sophie Swett*	50
The Christmas Toys	*M. J. H.*	53
Lemon Pigs. Two Little Southern Girls and Their Garden Plays Illustrations by Ralph F. Pratt	*Martha Young*	54
The One to Blame	*Henrietta R. Eliot*	56
Her First Christmas Stocking Illustration by Agnes M. Watson	*L. E. Lummis*	56
The Strange Adventure of Mazie. Part II. n the Doll-House Illustrations by L. J. Bridgman	*A. I. Lyman*	58
Jimmy Crow II Illustrations by the Author	*Edith F. Foster*	62
A Young Philosopher Illustrations by Josephine Bruce	*M. E. B.*	64

DEPARTMENTS.

The Little Folks Letter-Bag

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LITTLE FOLKS.

EDITED BY

CHARLES STUART PRATT AND ELLA FARMAN PRATT.

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LITTLE FOLKS .. 1900

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THIRD VOLUME BEGINS NOV., 1899. PRICE, $1.00 A YEAR.

THERE will be only one serial the coming year, but that will be a long one, running through the entire twelve numbers. All the children who have been clamoring for the past six months to hear more about Billy Boy Brown and Bee Brown, will be delighted to know that Billy Boy and Bee and other Pekoe people are in the new story. The hero, however, is not a boy, but the fascinating little beast who gives the serial its title:

The Yellow-Capped Monkey.

The happenings are very odd and very funny indeed and altogether it is the most charming story Sophie Swett has written for children. Mr. Merrill, who made the excellent pictures for "Billy Boy Brown," will make the pictures for the Yellow-Capped Monkey.

Not quite as long as serials, but as good, will be ***Six Two-Part Tales.*** The first of these by Miss A. L Lyman, in the Nov. and Dec. numbers, is a fairy story of

The Strange Adventure of Mazie.

Mr. Bridgman has made six curious and amusing pictures for this story. It will be followed by

Two Dogs that Went to School,

in which Alix Thorn and Annie Lewis Pinfold will tell about the school-days of "Rover," a little curly spaniel, and of "Nero," a very large Newfoundland.

Squirlie's Ride on the River,

A story for the babies, by A. W. Brett; about a little Squirrel, a sailing chip, and a bumping fish.

At the Big White Salmon Saw-Mill,

by Mrs. Lucia Chase Bell; the story of four little mountain children and a doll who started all by themselves to move to Alaska.

Three Boys and Their Dogs,

By James Buckham; about three boys with a dog apiece and the jolly times of the six.

Great-grandmother's London Doll,

by Sarah E. Mulliken; how she brought over the fashions from England and became a Revolutionary patriot, and how she disappeared in 1776.

In addition to the two two-part dog stories, there will be four other dog stories, all true ones, for the little boys; and, ***in addition*** to the two-part doll story, there will be four other doll stories for the little girls, likewise all true.

The ***doll stories*** are all by Ray Laurence, about four darling dolls she had when she was little: I, "Lavinia Warren;" II, "Victoria;" III, "Eva St. Clair;" IV, "Dotty Dimple." You see they were all named for people Ray Laurence admired: the tiny dwarf woman Mr. Barnum had in his Tom Thumb show; the Queen of England; the lovely little girl in "Uncle Tom's Cabin;" and the little heroine of one of Sophie May's series of child-books.

The ***dog stories*** are these: I, "Judy, a Naughty Dog, by Helena Boll; II, "Billy's Big Friend," by Jeannette Scott Benton; III, "A Dog with a Conscience," by Rose Thorne; IV, "What Sir Squills found to Do," by L. E. Johnson.

Three Specials for Boys:

"A Circus School," by Ernest R. Holmes.
"Philip's Pearl Mine," by L. E. Johnson.
"A Platte River Voyage," by Ernest R. Holmes.

Three Specials for Girls:

"The Little Girl at Mt. Vernon," by Jeannie Pendleton Ewing.

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During the year there will also be given three articles very interesting to everybody, about our most popular National Songs and their writers:

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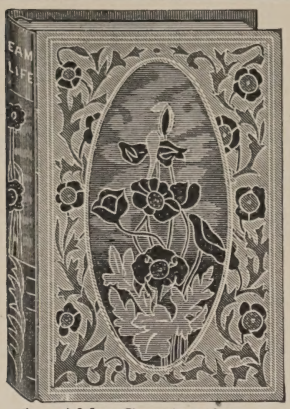
by Jeannie Pendleton Ewing.

The ***Rebus*** or ***Guessing Story,*** this year, will be quite fresh and quite funny. The title of the twelve is

Jimmy Crow,

and the artist author is Miss Edith Francis Foster.

Surely the children will have a year of "good times" with their magazine for 1900. Subscribe early, and ask the other children to take ***Little Folks*** too.



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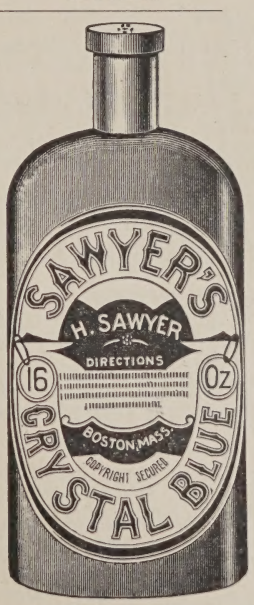

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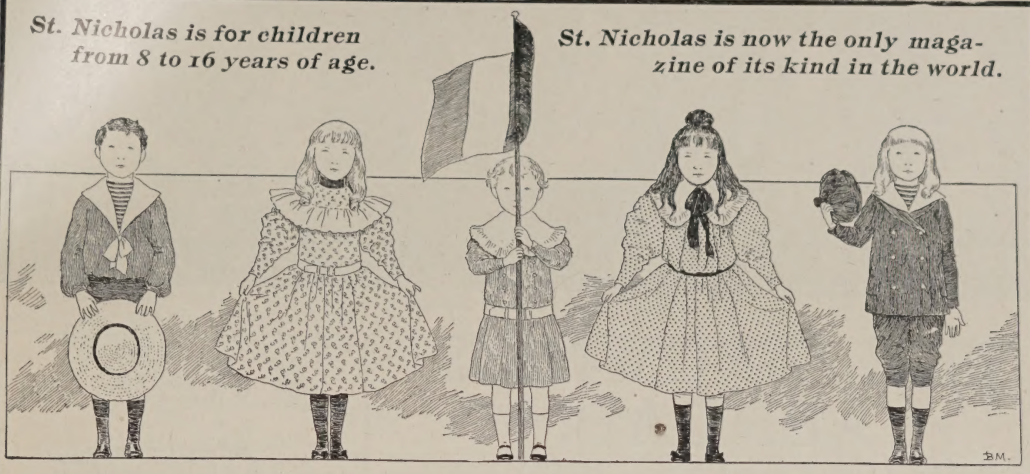

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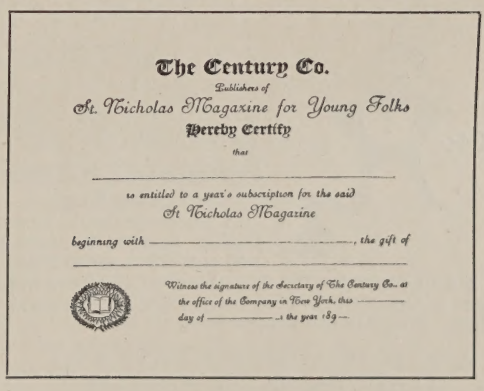
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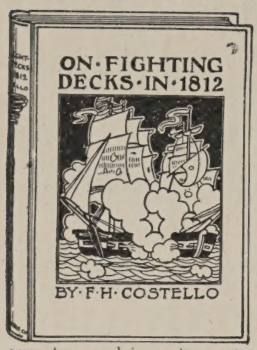

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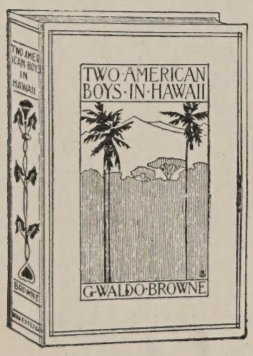

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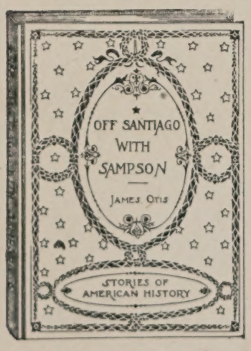

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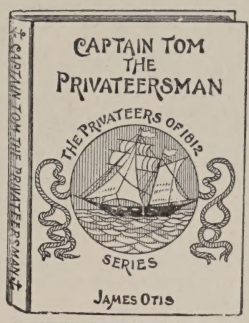

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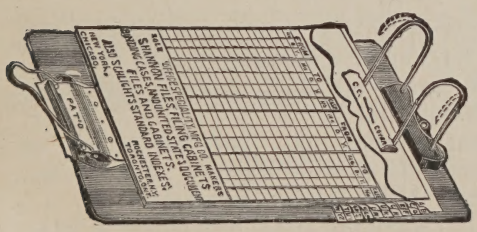

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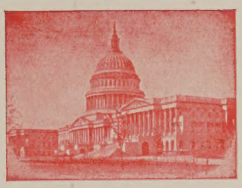

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